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JUN 22 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Taco Van Ieperen)
)
Serial Number: 09/966,733) Examiner: George C. Neurauter
)
Filed: October 1, 2001) Group Art Unit: 2143
)
For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM**) Confirmation No.: 3598
FOR CREATING AND)
MANAGING SECURE)
SHARED WORKSPACES)
)
Date: June 22, 2005)

MAIL STOP FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.131

Dear Sir:

I, Taco van Ieperen, whose full post office address is 808 - 19 Avenue S.W., Calgary, Alberta, T2T 0H5, Canada, hereby declare and say as follows:

1. I am the sole inventor of the subject matter disclosed and claimed in the above-identified patent application; namely, Application Serial No. 09/966,733 filed on October 1, 2001.

2. Prior to January 4, 2000, I conceived the above-identified invention as defined by claims 1 to 18 and 21 to 29. I am aware of U.S. Patent No. 6,636,889 to Estrada et al. filed on January 4, 2000. In order that this patent not be considered as citable prior art against the claims of the present invention, I can establish a date of invention earlier than the January 4, 2000 filing date of the Estrada patent. As factual evidence of this, the following facts are entered with supporting documentation.

3. Prior to January 4, 2000, I had invented certain novel and inventive improvements in a method and system for creating and managing secure shared workspaces for which I believed patent protection should be obtained. At that time, a White Paper describing the method and system of creating and managing shared workspaces was prepared and presented establishing a date of conception and reduction to practice of the invention prior to January 4, 2000.

4. Enclosed as Exhibit A is the above-mentioned White Paper, which provides a description of subject matter claimed in the present patent application. This description establishes a date of design and reduction to practice prior to January 4, 2000.

5. Evidence providing conception and reduction to practice of the claimed invention before January 4, 2000 is as follows, having regard to the language of claim 1 which reads:

A method for creating and managing a shared workspace in a network environment comprising the steps of:

[Reads on: Description under headings "SMART Meeting Software" and "The SMART Meeting Server", on pages 7 and 8.]

creating a shared workspace accessible to participants of a scheduled meeting;

[Reads on: Description under heading "Ubiquitous Access to Meeting Data Through the Web" on page 4, lines 1 to 3, under heading "SMART Meeting Software" on page 7, lines 6 and 7 and lines 17 to 18 and on page 8, line 17, and under heading "The SMART Meeting Server" on page 8, lines 13 and 14.]

categorizing data stored in said shared workspace;

[Reads on: Description under heading "SMART Meeting Software" on page 7, lines 6 and 7.]

exposing said categorized data stored in said shared workspace to each participant of said scheduled meeting accessing said shared workspace through a graphical user interface; and

[Reads on: Description under heading "The SMART Meeting Server" on page 8, lines 10 to 12.]

said graphical user interface enabling each participant to input data into appropriate categories of said shared workspace and edit categorized data exposed through said graphical user interface.

[Reads on: Description under heading "SMART Meeting Software" on page 8, lines 15 to 20, and under heading "The SMART Meeting Server" on page 8, lines 10 to 17 and on page 9, lines 9 to 11.]

6 Evidence providing conception and reduction to practice of the claimed invention before January 4, 2000 is as follows, having regard to the language of claim 21 which reads:

A system for creating and managing a secure shared workspace for a scheduled meeting comprising:

[Reads on: Description under headings "SMART Meeting Software" and "The SMART Meeting Server", on pages 7 and 8.]

a workspace server executing a server shared workspace application for creating and managing a shared workspace associated with a scheduled meeting.

[Reads on: Description under heading "Ubiquitous Access to Meeting Data Through the Web" on page 4, lines 1 to 3, under heading "SMART Meeting Software" on page 7, lines 6 and 7 and lines 17 to 18 and on page 8, line 17, and under heading "The SMART Meeting Server" on page 8, lines 13 and 14.]

data stored in said shared workspace being categorized and being accessible only to participants of said scheduled meeting;

[Reads on: Description under heading "SMART Meeting Software" on page 7, lines 6 and 7 and under heading "The SMART Meeting Server" on page 8, lines 13 and 14.]

an email server executing a server email and scheduling application; and

[Reads on: Description under heading "The SMART Meeting Server" on page 8, lines 18 to 23.]

a plurality of workstations, each of said workstations executing a client email and scheduling application and a client shared workspace application,

[Read on: Description under heading "The SMART Meeting Server" on page 8, lines 3 to 9.]

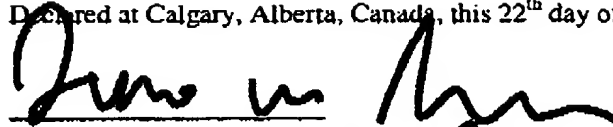
said client shared workspace application including a graphical user interface to enable each participant of said scheduled meeting to access and edit categorized data stored in said shared workspace.

[Reads on: Description under heading "SMART Meeting Software" on page 8, lines 15 to 20, and under heading "The SMART Meeting Server" on page 8, lines 10 to 17 and on page 9, lines 9 to 11.]

8. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the present patent application claims an invention, which was conceived and reduced to practice prior to January 4, 2000.

9. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Declared at Calgary, Alberta, Canada, this 22nd day of June 2005.


Taco Van Ieperen


Witness